

THE CYGNETS MILTON PRE-SCHOOL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

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CHAIR: Lianne Stanford

TRUSTEES: Sue Williams (Treasurer)
Nick Jones
Simon Bradley
Sonali Saccaram
Lianne Stanford
Nicola Boak (resigned 17/10/23)
Zoe Pattison
Fiona Pollard

SECRETARY: Simon Bradley

PRINCIPAL OFFICE: Humphries Way
Milton
Cambridge
CB24 6DL

CHARITY NUMBER: 1155959

COMPANY NUMBER: CE000997

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Ian Shipley FCCA
For and on behalf of:
Prentis & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants
& Independent Examiners
115c Milton Road
Cambridge
CB4 1XE

BANKERS: Barclays Bank UK Plc
1 Churchill Place
London
E14 5HP

Cambridge Building Society
51 Newmarket Road
Cambridge
CB5 8FF

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report for The Cygnets Milton Pre-School for the year ended 31st August 2024.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1st January 2019), as modified by the exemptions for small charities provided in Update Bulletin 1.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, incorporated in 2014 under a standard membership CIO (deed).

The Cygnets Milton Pre-School (Cygnets) is a registered charity, and so requires volunteer Trustees to form a management committee. The committee is the 'registered person' for Ofsted; in other words, the committee has had to apply to Ofsted to open this Pre-School. As such, the committee is ultimately responsible for the children's, staffs' and visitors' health, safety and welfare, as well as the management of staff and finances, amongst other things.

It is a big responsibility, but the committee tries to make it enjoyable, and enjoy contributing time throughout the year and at fund-raising events for Cygnets. It is a great way of being involved in the community. We have maintained our committee members this year and there are new members that are currently in the process of joining the existing committee. This makes for a good number so that each committee member can have a portfolio of responsibility that is not too overwhelming.

ORGANISATION AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The committed and experienced workforce consists of a Manager, Deputy Manager, Room Leaders, an Office Manager and other room staff, all of whom ensure the smooth running of the setting.

New Trustees are appointed by the existing committee members.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The management committee is responsible for overseeing of risks faced by Cygnets. Risks are identified, assessed and controls are established continually throughout the year. The management committee believes that this approach, which closely monitors the operations, staffing and finances of the Pre-School will mitigate the significant risks and that maintaining financial reserves will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions.

The safety of the children who attend the setting is paramount and sufficient safeguarding measures and insurance is in place to ensure this.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**Staffing and Children**

The committee is very fortunate to have such a committed and experienced workforce at Cygnets. This allows us to provide continuity and a high standard of care for the children.

Due to the positive reputation of the setting within the community, demand for places in the setting has plateaued over the past year. Once this was recognised, the management team and senior trustees worked to see where gaps have occurred. We recognise the complex juggling act that the management team completes every half term to accommodate as many children as they can all while most effectively matching the myriad of staffing combinations, hours and rooms. The numbers of children and staff continue to put pressure on the physical spaces within the setting. This issue is continuously being considered and a solution will hopefully be found in the near future. We have expanded the committee with members who have specialist knowledge in the hopes that we can effectively evaluate the space and its use and work towards making positive changes for the future.

Fundraising

The Nursery Education Funding received via Cambridge County Council does not fully cover costs. As a result fees charged for extra sessions and sessions for children not qualifying for funding, plus additional fundraising events are needed to maintain resources, train staff and meet facility running costs. This additional funding was achieved by sponsored events organised throughout the year. The committee would like to thank everyone who supported the various events. The committee now has a fundraising portfolio so that we can apply for suitable external funding schemes.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORTcontinued

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The setting has had a challenging year, largely due to a continued increase in costs and a decrease in the number of children in attendance. The action of the management team throughout the year meant that by the end of the summer term, numbers of children had been restored and the financial forecast improved. The continued support from Cambridgeshire County Council early years team has assisted the setting by providing advice and continues to maintain the Nursery Education Funding grants. The Pre-School's longstanding good management practice has worked to improve the recently depleted cash reserves and ensured that Cygnets returned to its strong financial position.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity works for the public benefit by having as its objectives, the development and education of children and young people and is demonstrated by:

- 1) Promoting their care and safety.
- 2) Promoting their education and promoting parental involvement.
- 3) Promoting their health and wellbeing.
- 4) Providing services to support them and their families and carers.
- 5) Providing services to individuals holding membership of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation.
- 6) Furthering the aims of the Early Years Alliance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES

The financial results for the year ended 31st August 2024 show a surplus of £16,767 (2023: deficit £19,589). Income has increased to £215,650 (2023: £198,205) and expenditure has decreased to £198,883 (2023 £217,794).

Despite the unprecedented circumstances experienced for the third year running, Cygnets overachieved the budget set at the beginning of the year and the overall surplus was greater compared to the deficit originally planned.

The setting's largest cost relates to staff salaries and this decreased from last year by approximately £15k. This decrease was due to a fall in staff numbers, despite a required pay rise implemented in April 2024.

All other costs remained broadly in line with the previous year.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are required by charity law to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- (a) Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- (b) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.
- (d) State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and with applicable accounting standards and Statements of Recommended Practice, subject to any material departure and explained in the financial statements.
- (e) Observe the methods and principals of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

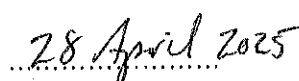
The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act.

The Trustees confirm they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES



LIANNE STANFORD
Chair



DATE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CYGNETS MILTON PRE-SCHOOL

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Cygnets Milton Pre-School Charitable Incorporated Organisation (the 'CIO') for the year ended 31st August 2024.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the trustees of the CIO you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

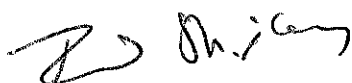
I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and contents of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



IAN SHIPLEY FCCA
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF:
PRENTIS & CO LLP
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS &
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

6th May 2025.

115c Milton Road
Cambridge
CB4 1XE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Total Unrestricted 2024 £	Total Unrestricted 2023 £
INCOME			
Charitable activities:			
Fees/Funding		211,352	193,881
Investment income		1,177	350
Other	2	3,121	3,974
TOTAL INCOME		<u>215,650</u>	<u>198,205</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities	3	198,883	217,794
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>198,883</u>	<u>217,794</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR		16,767	(19,589)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total fund balance brought forward		48,301	67,890
Total fund balance carried forward		<u>65,068</u>	<u>48,301</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5		2,408		4,815
CURRENT ASSETS					
Prepayments	6	2,452		2,429	
Cash at bank and in hand		102,629		63,527	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>105,081</u>		<u>65,956</u>	
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>42,421</u>		<u>22,470</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>62,660</u>		<u>43,486</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS			<u>65,068</u>		<u>48,301</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds	8		<u>65,068</u>		<u>48,301</u>
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			<u>65,068</u>		<u>48,301</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on *28 April 2025.*

Lianne Stanford

 LIANNE STANFORD
 Chair

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Pre-School's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The Trustees have opted to take advantage of the amendment to Charities SORP FRS 102, where only larger charities are required to prepare a Statement of Cash Flow.

(c) INCOME

Income represents the amount derived from the charity's ordinary activities. Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. No income is stated net of any associated expenditure.

(d) EXPENDITURE

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to beneficiaries. Governance costs include costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and are part of the charity's activities. Expenditure is allocated to expense headings on a direct cost basis.

(e) TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write-off the costs less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over their expected useful lives as follows:

Fixtures and Fittings - 25% straight line

The Trustees have adopted a policy that only items in excess of £1000 are to be capitalised.

2. INCOME FROM OTHERS

	Total Unrestricted 2024 £	Total Unrestricted 2023 £
Photograph commission	44	120
Sponsored Walk	1,010	919
Easy Fundraising	16	32
Christmas hamper	-	42
Children's uniform sales	147	510
School outing collections	296	325
Easter Fayre	-	1,329
Other fundraising	511	697
Gift Aid	113	-
Summer Fayre	984	-
	<u>3,121</u>	<u>3,974</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Total Unrestricted 2024 £	Total Unrestricted 2023 £
Staff costs (note 4)	173,264	188,004
Training costs	485	511
Other staff costs	133	202
Payroll service	1,497	1,582
Materials and activity supplies	1,475	1,039
New equipment , Books, Toys	743	1,504
EYPP expenditure	471	1,802
Summer Fayre expenditure	117	90
Easter Fayre expenditure	6	-
Milk and snacks	53	15
Deprivation	45	563
Rent	999	999
Utility costs	2,579	2,683
Waste disposal	967	926
Cleaning costs	4,824	4,992
Repairs and maintenance	1,343	1,947
Other school running costs	2,747	2,693
Photocopying, stationery and postage	1,399	1,883
IT and website costs	129	156
Telephone and internet	322	618
Insurance and registration fees	876	859
Accountancy	1,260	1,050
School outing	370	384
Sports day	10	6
Uniform	-	470
Bank charges	252	262
Committee expenses	-	9
Entertainment costs	110	138
Depreciation of fixtures and fittings	2,407	2,407
	<u>198,883</u>	<u>217,794</u>

4. STAFF COSTS

No remuneration was paid to any of the Trustees in the year, nor were any expenses reimbursed to them.

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	169,017	183,328
Employers pension	4,247	4,676
	<u>173,264</u>	<u>188,004</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 13 (2023: 16).

No member of staff earned more than £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Board of Trustees who give their time freely.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				Fixtures and
	CURRENT YEAR				Fittings
	COST				£
	Balance at 1st September 2023 and at 31 August 2024				9,629
	DEPRECIATION				
	Balance at 1st September 2023				4,814
	Charge for the year				2,407
	Balance at 31st August 2024				7,221
	NET BOOK VALUE AT 31ST AUGUST 2024				2,408
	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				Fixtures and
	PRIOR YEAR				Fittings
	COST				£
	Balance at 1st September 2022 and at 31 August 2023				9,629
	DEPRECIATION				
	Balance at 1st September 2022				2,407
	Charge for the year				2,407
	Balance at 31st August 2023				4,814
	NET BOOK VALUE AT 31ST AUGUST 2023				4,815
6.	DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS		2024	2023	
			£	£	
	Prepayments		2,452	2,429	
7.	CREDITORS		2024	2023	
			£	£	
	Trade creditors		1,277	1,169	
	Taxation and social security		1,695	1,287	
	Accruals		39,449	20,014	
			42,421	22,470	
8.	ACCUMULATED FUNDS	Balance at			Balance at
	Year ended 31st August 2024	1st September			31st August
		2023	Income	Expenditure	2024
		£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted funds	48,301	215,650	(198,883)	65,068
	ACCUMULATED FUNDS	Balance at			Balance at
	Year ended 31st August 2023	1st September			31st August
		2022	Income	Expenditure	2023
		£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted funds	67,890	198,205	(217,794)	48,301